



July 12, 2010

**PUBLIC LISTENING SESSION ON THE PRESIDENT'S AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOORS  
INITIATIVE IN GRAND ISLAND, NE**

**GENERAL SESSION**

**12:00 – 1:00 Registration Table Open**

**1:00 – 1:20 Welcome and Opening Remarks**

- **Steve Chick, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)**
- **Welcome – Peg Gilbert, President of the Grand Island City Council**
- **Opening Remarks:**
  - Dave White – Chief Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), USDA
  - John Berge – Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations, USDA
  - Eileen Sobeck – Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Department of the Interior

**1:20 – 1:30 America's Great Outdoors Video**

**1:30 – 2:00 Panel Discussion: How to Connect Nebraskans to the Outdoors**

**Moderator: Dave White, Chief, NRCS**

- McKenzie Barry – Environmental Education Specialist, Lower Platte South Natural Resources District
- Scott Kudnra – President, Nebraska Resource, Conservation and Development Association
- Gloria Erickson – Board Member, Rainwater Basin Joint Venture; Board Member, Nebraska Environmental Trust

**2:00 – 2:15    Break – Move to Breakout Sessions**

**2:15 – 4:00    Breakout Group Conversations**

Go around the group to hear from everyone about:

- *What Works? – Please share your thoughts and ideas on effective strategies for conservation, recreation, and reconnecting people to the outdoors?*
- *Tools – What additional tools and resources would help your efforts be even more successful?*
- *Challenges – What obstacles exist to achieve your goals for conservation, recreation, or reconnecting people to the outdoors?*
- *Federal Government Role – How can the federal government be a more effective partner in helping to achieve conservation, recreation and reconnecting people to the outdoors?*

**4:00                    Conclude General Breakout Session**